Corruption in IGNOU

3815. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received by Government in respect of irregularities/corruption in the IGNOU

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take against the defaulting officials;

(c) whether Distance Education Council (DEC) of IGNOU is a statutory body of the Government of India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government have any proposal to make Distance Education Council as an independent body to look after the Open Distance Learning (ODL) system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b), A number of complaints are received in the Ministry, from time to time, which are dealt with as per the procedure laid down in this regard.

(c) and (d) The Distance Education Council is a statutory authority created under Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985 to monitor, coordinate and strengthen the standards of education offered through Open Distance Learning system. Statute 28 of IGNOU Act, 1985, which deals with Distance Education Council, was made by the Board of Management of IGNOU at its meeting held in the month of July, 1991 and it also received approval of the Visitor.

(e) The Government has not taken any decision in this regard.

NTs and IIMs in Punjab

3816. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no institute like Indian Institute of Technology or Indian Institute of Management in Punjab;

(b) whether any request has been received from the Government of Punjab for establishment of such institutes in the State during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) There is no Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) or Indian Institute of Management (MM) in Punjab

(b) A request has been received from the Chief Minister of Punjab to establish a new IIT/IIM in Punjab.

(c) Presently, there is no proposal under consideration to establish a new IIT and MM in Punjab.

Course in design by IITs

3817. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IITs have planned to start a four year course in design;

(b) if so, the details of this proposal;

(c) the status of this demand from IITs;

(d) whether Government have not given clearance to such proposals; and

(e) the reasons for neglecting IITs in such matters and the delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) IIT, Guwahati is already running a four year course in design (Bachelor of Design) since 1998 and IIT, Madras has also started a five year Dual Degree (B.Tech and M. Tech) programme in engineering design from July, 2005. No such proposal from any other IIT is pending with the Government.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.